



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer
Stephen M. Haase

SUBJECT: PDC03-068

DATE: 03-10-04

Approved

Date

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4

REASON FOR SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information on the status of transportation planning for the Charcot Avenue extension project. This information is provided to further support staff's recommendation on the location of a neighborhood park so as to reduce the demand for travel across future Charcot Avenue for park access.

BACKGROUND

On February 9th and 25th, 2004, the Planning Commission considered a Planned Development rezoning to allow the construction of up to 107 single-family detached residences, in the area west of Oakland Road and north of the planned alignment of Charcot Avenue. The Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement recommended approval of the proposed rezoning subject to the condition that a park of approximately one acre in size be provided on the project site. However, the applicant prefers to provide park improvements at the public school site (Orchard Elementary School), located south of the planned alignment of Charcot Avenue. The applicant's preference was supported by the Planning Commission.

ANALYSIS

The Department of Transportation strongly supports locating the park adjacent to the residential development, so that park access from the neighborhood can be made without crossing a high-volume arterial street. This allows for enhanced safety and convenience for the neighborhood residents. The applicant's proposal to have the residential development and the park separated by the future extension of Charcot Avenue is not supported by staff. Listed below is summary of the status and significance of the Charcot Avenue extension project:

- The Charcot project is an element of the City's General Plan and provides a new east-west travel corridor (for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians) across Route 880 between

Oakland Road and North First Street. The project improves access and circulation for North San José and relieves congestion along the parallel travel corridors of Montague Expressway and Brokaw Road. Charcot Avenue is planned as a two to four lane high-volume arterial street and is projected to carry in excess of 15,000 vehicles a day.

- The Charcot project has been identified as a priority “gateway” improvement to support enhanced development of the North San José area, as recommended in the City’s Economic Development Strategy.
- On December 16, 2003, the City Council approved the Charcot project as a priority for regional funding as part of Valley Transportation Plan 2030 (VTP2030), an updated regional transportation master plan being prepared by the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). The draft VTP2030 Plan, released last month, includes the Charcot project as a regional priority – the final Plan is scheduled for approval by the VTA in May 2004.

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